

ESGS CONFERENCE 2026

CLIMATE CHANGE IN MINING: Risks, Governance, Sustainability, and Environmental Management

DATE: 26-27 AUGUST 2026
VENUE: GLENBURN LODGE,
MULDERSDRIFT

Building on the success of the inaugural 2025 event, the second ESGS Conference in 2026 will focus on the overarching theme of Climate Change in Mining. The conference will bring together mining leaders, policymakers, financiers, and sustainability experts to explore how the industry can adapt, innovate, and thrive in the face of climate challenges.

ESG CONFERENCE 2026 PROGRAMME CLIMATE CHANGE IN MINING

Keynote – 35mins (Including Q & A)
Speaker –20 mins (Including Q & A)

Conference Day 1 – Wednesday, 26 August 2026

Plenary Session

- 07:30-08:30 Registration and Early Morning Refreshments
- 08:30-08:35 Safety Briefing
Venue Official
- 08:35-08:40 Welcome and Opening
G Smith, Conference Chairperson
- 08:40-08:55 SAIMM Presidential Address
- 08:55-09:25 Opening Keynote: Integration and collaborate effort in addressing climate change
- 09:25-10:10 Panel/Fireside Discussion
- 10:10-10:30 Mid Morning Refreshments

PILLAR 1 – Risk

Session 1 Technical Presentations

- 10:30-10:45 Session introduction and scene setting (SRK Consulting)
- 10:45-11:05 Climate change projections for integration into Mine Water Management
J Cahi, SRK Consulting, South Africa
- 11:05-11:25 Beyond the Design Storm: From Compliance Metrics to Adaptive Operations for Consecutive Minor Events in Dams
A M Cassa, F W van Zyl Knight Piésold (Pty) Ltd, South Africa
- 11:25-11:45 Bridging the gap from EIA to Corporate Risk
M Rommelspacher, B Woythal, S Schoeman Digby Wells Environmental, South Africa
- 11:45-12:05 Advancing Enterprise Risk Management in Mining: Integrating Physical Climate Change Risk Intelligence and Risk Velocity for Enhanced Organisational Resilience – The Valterra Platinum Approach
C J van Zyl, I C Pernusch, Valterra Platinum, South Africa
- 12:05-12:25 Investigation into how mining companies quantify materiality as a key risk in their operations
Z Zituta, Beacon Holdings (Pty) Ltd, South Africa
- 12:25-13:20 Lunch

PILLAR 1 – Sustainability

Session 3 Technical Presentations

- 13:20-13:40 Land Use Change Accounting and Its Implications for the Mining Sector
C Humphrey, Carbon Trust, South Africa
- 13:40-14:00 The Role of Carbon Offsets in Decarbonisation Strategy Development
D van Wyk, S. Thakurdin S. Gangl, Hatch, South Africa
- 14:00-14:20 Reframing Social Transition in Mining: A Systems Approach to Regional Socio-Economic Resilience – A Kumba Case Study
B Moremi, A Bux, Kumba Iron Ore, South Africa
- 14:20-14:40 How Regional Water Stewardship Mitigate Water Stress in Mining Communities
C Hudson, MineCare Evolution (Pty) Ltd, South Africa
- 14:40-15:00 Beyond the Mine Gate: Making Scope 3 Decarbonisation Actionable in Mining
C Humphrey, Carbon Trust, South Africa
- 15:00-15:20 Technology Innovation for Sustainable Mining: Using Digital Tools to Drive ESG Performance
J Daya, IsoMetrix, South Africa
- 15:20 Day 1 Conference Close
- 15:20-17:30 Networking Cocktail Function

PILLAR 2 – Governance and Finance

Session 2 Panel/ Roundtable Carbon Trust

Establishing a junior and small-scale mining support (JSMS) initiative in South Africa

PILLAR 2 – Adaptation

Session 4 Panel/ Roundtable SRK Consulting and OTT Advisory

Adaptation through nature

ESGS CONFERENCE 2026

CLIMATE CHANGE IN MINING:

Risks, Governance, Sustainability,
and Environmental Management

DATE: 26-27 AUGUST 2026
VENUE: GLENBURN LODGE,
MULDERSDRIFT

Building on the success of the inaugural 2025 event, the second ESGS Conference in 2026 will focus on the overarching theme of Climate Change in Mining. The conference will bring together mining leaders, policymakers, financiers, and sustainability experts to explore how the industry can adapt, innovate, and thrive in the face of climate challenges.

ESG CONFERENCE 2026 PROGRAMME CLIMATE CHANGE IN MINING

Conference Day 2 – Tuesday, 27 August 2026

Plenary Session

- 08:00-08:30 Registration and Early Morning Refreshments
- 08:30-08:35 Safety Briefing:
Venue Official
- 08:35-08:45 Welcome and Opening
G Smith, Conference Chairperson
- 08:45-09:15 Opening Keynote: The role of complex transformative and adaptive systems in post-mining economic transition strategies
M Solomon, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- 09:15-09:35 WiMSA
- 09:35-09:55 Mid Morning Refreshments

PILLAR 4 – Adaptation

Session 5 – Technical Presentations

- 09:55-10:05 Session introduction and scene setting (SRK Consulting)
- 10:05-10:25 Remote Sensing and AI for Climate-Resilient Mine Water Stewardship: A Framework for Scalable Environmental Monitoring in the Witwatersrand
M B Smith, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- 10:25-10:45 Water and the just energy transition in Mpumalanga™ coal regions
M J Cole, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- 10:45-11:05 Why biodiversity and ecosystem services are the next frontier of climate resilience
R Bolton, Elements Stewardship, South Africa
- 11:05-11:25 Soil Macrofauna as bioindicators of ecological recovery in a tailings storage facility in the Zambian Copperbelt: Implications for mine wasteland restoration
M Kasimbo, T Johnson, T Mwamba and S Syampungani Copperbelt University, Zambia
- 11:25-11:45 Microbes at Work: Turning Acid Mine Drainage into Clean Water
S Mbedla, P M Pale, University of Johannesburg, South Africa
- 11:45-12:05 A survey of Tailings Disposal Practices at Independent Chrome Processing Facilities in South Africa
S Naidoo, I Watson, Mineral Exco (Pty) Ltd, South Africa
- 12:05-13:05 Lunch
- 13:05-13:35 Keynote Address: Capital at the Crossroads: How South African Financial Institutions Are Shaping the Governance of Climate-Related Investment in the Mining Sector
D Minelli, Webber Wentzel, South Africa

PILLAR 2 – Governance and Finance

Session 7 – Technical Papers

- 13:35-13:45 Session introduction and scene setting (Carbon Trust)
- 13:45-14:05 Conditional Formalisation in Artisanal Mining: Using Competitive ESG Aggregator Models to Direct Capital Flows Towards Environmental Compliance in Zimbabwe
H T Muchemedzi, Magaya Mining, Zimbabwe
- 14:05-14:25 Integrating ESG into mining practice: A South African case study of organisational adaptation and compliance
S Boloko, M Mpanza, N Malan, University of Johannesburg, South Africa
- 14:24-14:45 Sustainable finance as a catalyst for mining decarbonisation
I Ramaipato, Carbon Trust, South Africa
- 14:45-15:05 De-risking Mining Investments for a Low-Carbon Future: Climate Finance Strategies in Emerging Markets
O T Sentsho, Morton Energy Partners, South Africa
- 15:05-15:25 From Nature-Related Risk to Financial Resilience: Applying TNFD in the Mining Sector
L van den Berg, ASPASA, South Africa, R Lyth, Carbon Trust, South Africa
- 15:25-15:30 Day 2 Conference Close (Intergration of the pillars, gaps and future plans)
- 15:30 – 16:00 Afternoon Refreshments

PILLAR 2 –Sustainability

Session 6 Panel/Roundtable Carbon Trust, CNES and MineCare

Collaborative platforms for improved ESG action and outcomes in mineral regions/clusters throughout life of mine

PILLAR 1 – Risk

Session 8 Panel/ Roundtable SRK Consulting

Addressing the risk of tailings through meeting the requirements of the GISTM by taking climate change risks into account from Design to Closure.